

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 17 public bills, H.R. 2696–2712; and 2 resolutions, H.J. Res. 64 and H. Con. Res. 172, were introduced.

Page H7025

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

Report on the Revised Suballocation of Budget Allocations for Fiscal Year 2000 (H. Rept. 106–288);

Conference report on H.R. 2488, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce individual income tax rates, to provide marriage penalty relief, to reduce taxes on savings and investments, to provide estate and gift tax relief, to provide incentives for education savings and health care (H. Rept. 106–289);

Conference report on H.R. 1905, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000 (H. Rept. 106–290);

H. Res. 274, waiving points of order against the conference report on H.R. 2488, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce individual income tax rates, to provide marriage penalty relief, to reduce taxes on savings and investments, to provide estate and gift tax relief, and to provide incentives for education savings and health care (H. Rept. 106–291);

H. Res. 275, providing for consideration of H.R. 2684, making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000 (H. Rept. 106–292); and

H. Res. 276, providing for consideration of S. 1467, to extend the funding levels for aviation programs for 60 days (H. Rept. 106–293).

Pages H7024–25, H7027–H7192, H7241–50

Journal Vote: Agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of Tuesday, August 3, by a yea and nay vote of 366 yeas to 56 nays with 1 voting "present", Roll No. 367.

Pages H6967, H6972–73

Suspension—American Inventors Protection Act: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1907, amended, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide enhanced protection for inventors and innovators, protect patent terms, and reduce patent litigation by a yea and nay vote of 376 yeas to 43 nays, Roll No. 368. The House debated the bill on August 3.

Pages H6973–74

Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations: The House com-

pleted general debate and began considering amendments to H.R. 2670, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000.

Pages H6983–H7018, H7193–H7221

Agreed to:

The Serrano amendment that increases funding for the Legal Services Corporation by \$109 million (agreed to by a recorded vote of 242 yeas to 178 noes, Roll No. 370);

Pages H7003–18

The Jackson-Lee of Texas amendment that provides \$2 million in funding for grants to develop programs to reduce drug use among juveniles; and

Page H7200

The Blagojevich amendment that allocates an additional \$7.5 million for innovative policing programs under the COPS program.

Page H7204

Rejected:

The Scott amendment that sought to increase crime prevention and treatment program funding by \$137.3 million and decrease the truth in sentencing block grant program accordingly (rejected by a recorded vote of 164 yeas to 263 noes, Roll No. 372);

Pages H7197–H7200, H7219–20

The DeGette amendment that sought to strike the section that prohibits funding for abortion except where the life of the mother would be endangered or in the case of rape (rejected by a recorded vote of 160 yeas to 268 noes, Roll No. 373); and

Pages H7204–07, H7220–21

The Coburn amendment that sought to reduce funding by \$2.7 billion for the decennial census (rejected by a recorded vote of 171 yeas to 257 noes, Roll No. 374).

Pages H7208–16, H7217–19, H7221

Withdrawn:

The Jackson-Lee of Texas amendment was offered, but subsequently withdrawn, that sought to increase funding for naturalization adjudication personnel; and

Pages H7195–96

The Maloney of Connecticut amendment was offered, but subsequently withdrawn, that sought to reallocate funding for Community Oriented Policing Services.

Page H7203

Points of Order Sustained Against:

The Jackson-Lee of Texas amendment that sought to increase funding for border control agent salaries; and

Pages H7194–95

The Cook amendment that sought to increase funding for grants to Combat Violence Against Women and Law Enforcement Armor Vests programs.

Pages H7201–02

Rejected the Obey motion to rise by a recorded vote of 166 ayes to 249 noes, Roll No. 371.

Page H7216

H. Res. 273, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a yea and nay vote of 221 yeas to 205 nays, Roll No. 369.

Pages H6974–83

Emergency Steel, Oil, and Gas Loan Guarantee Program: The House agreed to the motion to concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 1664, providing emergency authority for guarantees of loans to qualified steel and iron ore companies and to qualified oil and gas companies, by a recorded vote of 246 ayes to 176 noes with 1 voting “present,” Roll No. 375.

Pages H7222–33

Legislative Branch Appropriations: The Toomey motion to instruct conferees on the Senate amendments to H.R. 1905, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000 to insist upon (1) the House provisions for the funding of the House of Representatives under title I of the bill; (2) the Senate amendment for the funding of the Senate under title I of the bill, including funding provided under the heading “JOINT ITEMS—ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL—Capitol Buildings and Grounds—senate office buildings”; (3) the House provisions for the funding of Joint Items under title I of the bill, other than the funding provided under the heading “JOINT ITEMS—ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL—Capitol Buildings and Grounds—senate office buildings”; and (4) the House version of title II of the bill was offered and subsequently, proceedings were postponed.

Pages H7233–36

Recess: The House recessed at 11:44 p.m. and reconvened at 12:38 a.m. on Thursday, August 5.

Page H7241

Senate Messages: Message received from the Senate appears on page H6967.

Amendments Ordered Printed: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on pages H7026–27.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea and nay votes and six recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H6972–73, H6973–74, H6982–83, H7017–18, H7216, H7219–20, H7220–21, H7221, and H7233. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 12:39 a.m. on Thursday, August 5.

Committee Meetings

COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT IMPROVEMENTS

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Finance and Hazardous Materials held a hearing on legislation to Improve the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, focusing on several brownfields-related provisions contained in the following bills: H.R. 1300, Recycle America's Land Act of 1999; H.R. 1750, Community Revitalization and Brownfield Cleanup Act of 1999; and H.R. 2580, Land Recycling Act of 1999. Testimony was heard from Tim Fields, Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, EPA; Lois Schiffer, Assistant Attorney General, Environmental Protection Division, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

MEDICARE+CHOICE—PROGRAM EVALUATION

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and the Environment held a hearing on Medicare+Choice: An Evaluation of the Program. Testimony was heard from Robert Berenson, M.D., Director, Center for Health Plans and Providers, Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Civil Service held a hearing on reauthorization of the Office of Government Ethics. Testimony was heard from Stephen D. Potts, Director, Office of Government Ethics; and a public witness.

GUN MANUFACTURERS—HUD'S ROLE IN LITIGATION

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy, and Human Resources held a hearing on What is HUD's Role in Litigation Against Gun Manufacturers? Testimony was heard from Gail Laster, General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; DECEPTIVE SWEEPSTAKES MAILINGS

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on the Postal Service approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 2319, to make the American Battle Monuments Commission and the World War II Memorial Advisory Board eligible to use